

Media Release  
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### **BOC India reports rise in profits for Q1 Quarter ends with 10% increase in turnover**

**BOC India Limited** reported a fourfold rise in business profits at Rs. 344 lakhs for the quarter ended June 2003 as compared to the corresponding previous period. The net profit after tax excluding extraordinary items at Rs 254 lakhs for the quarter also grew by an impressive 280% over the same period last year.

The quarter witnessed a 10% increase in turnover over the corresponding quarter last year, helped by a robust performance from its Project Engineering Division and growth in the Gases business. - Speaking on the performance **Mr. Sanjiv Lamba, Managing Director, BOC India Limited** said “The first quarter performance reflects the sustained efforts to enhance competitiveness by focusing on cost control, productivity and efficiency improvement coupled with our continued focus on cash generation to fund future growth”

Earlier during the day at the Annual General Meeting, **Mr J N Sapru, Chairman BOC India Limited** said “ The company has put in a creditable performance for the year ended March 2003 and is focusing its attention on growth and cash generation as it goes forward.”

**BOC India** had registered a growth of 6% in sales for the year ended 31 march 2003 over the previous fiscal year. Net profits for the same period were significantly higher at Rs 16.3 crores from **Rs. 2.6 crores** in previous year.

Work on the **225 tpd Air Separation Plant** at Jamshedpur for **Tata Steel** is in its finishing stages and the plant is likely to be commissioned shortly. The company will also shortly resume operations at its **Asansol Compression facility**.

On restructuring of the **Lines of Business (LoB)** operation undertaken last year, **Mr. Lamba** further added “Our initiatives have made **BOC India** more customer centric, aligning the entire organization by the markets we serve, focused on delivering value to our customers.”

**About BOC India Limited :** **BOC India Limited (BOCI)** is the leader in gas business in India since 1935. Part of the \$ 6 billion **BOC Group Plc.** of UK, **BOC India** provides a one-stop solution to every sphere of gas and gas related business. **BOC India** has excelled through successfully blending of local innovation and adaptation with international expertise from the Group. Be it for food processing, medical, domestic or industrial use, **BOC India** provides tailor made solutions for its customers. While providing the best solutions to its customers, **BOC India** has always conformed to the strictest international standards of production and safety.